

Talking Points  
Toyota Boshoku Groundbreaking  
Wednesday, February 6, 2008

- Thank you, Dennis.

- Today's celebration here in Itawamba County marks another important step in a beautiful friendship.

- It is an honor to have Dr. Toyoda, Nate Furuta and Mr. Yamamoto with us today ... welcome back to Itawamba, and welcome to our new friends from Toyota Boshoku Mississippi. I worked with Nate when he participated in the site selection process for the Toyota Highlander plant in Blue Springs. Thank you all for being here.

- This new plant and the more than 500 new jobs it will bring with it will increase the quality of life for all of us in Mississippi, especially in the Itawamba County and the Tupelo region.

- The Toyota Boshoku Mississippi plant is one of the largest projects supporting the main Toyota plant at Blue Springs.

- Toyota Boshoku America understands what many in the automotive industry already have experienced — that Mississippi is a smart place to do business.

- Mississippi is well-suited for automotive manufacturers because of our location and highly-talented workforce...

- ...well-suited because our communities and the state have a very strong record of supporting our businesses,

- ...well-suited because we enjoy some of the nation's lowest commercial energy rates,
- ...well-suited because Mississippi's workforce is ready and willing to seize new job opportunities,
- ...and well-suited because Toyota Boshoku America is a good corporate citizen with a proven history of caring about the environment and the communities in which it operates.
- Today's groundbreaking is the result of our work and healthy partnerships to bring another automotive company to Mississippi.
- Again I want to recognize and thank:
  - Toyota Boshoku Corporation President, Dr. Shuhei Toyoda

- Toyota Boshoku America Nate Furuta and Mr.

Yamamoto;

- Mississippi Development Authority and its executive director, Gray Swoope;

- Tennessee Valley Authority, Bill Adams and Tim Weston;

- The Itawamba County Board of Supervisors

- Gary Franks, a key player in this project as a catalyst for the county

- And the entire Itawamba and Tupelo community for their efforts to make today's announcement possible.

- In August, I said I was thrilled that Toyota Boshoku America will build its plant in Itawamba County. Today, I'm proud to join you in planting roots as we make it official that Toyota Boshoku Mississippi has found its new home.

- We look forward to continuing and strengthening our relationship as we work together to move Mississippi forward.

- Thank you.